

REMARKS

Applicant hereby confirms the substance of the telephone interview of 4/14/2005 as presented in the Interview Summary herein during which all the claims [but no prior art] were discussed and Applicant affirms the election made to pursue claims 1-3 and 7-20 during the telephone interview of 4/14/2005 in which the Examiner discussed the various inventions and the Applicant's counseled agreed to pursue the indicated claims.

Claims 1 - 3 and 7 - 20 have been rejected under §§ 102 and 103. These claims have been cancelled.

Submitted herewith are new claims which Applicants believe define patentable subject matter.

§ 102 Rejection

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 10, 15, 17 and 18 have been rejected under § 103 based on Heaney (U.S. 4,329,982). These claims have been cancelled.

The new claims 21 - 37 presented here correspond roughly to now cancelled claims as follows:

New Claim	Old Claim
21	1
22	2
23	3
24	7
25	10
26	11
27	12
28	13
29	14
30	15
31	16
32	17
33	18
34	19
35	20

New independent claims 21, 30, 31 and 32 recite the limitations that:

- the cuff is positionable immediately above the ankle joint
- the cuff is positionable so that the ankle joint prevents the cuff from moving downwardly

The remaining claims, by dependency from new independent claims recite these same limitations.

Heaney has no teaching or suggestion of a cuff positionable immediately above an ankle joint. Heaney has no teaching or suggestion of a cuff so positionable that the ankle joint prevents downward movement of the cuff.

Contrary to what is now claimed herein, Heaney requires that his band 10 be attached "on or immediately above the calf" (Heaney, Col. 3, lines 39, 40).

Applicant respectfully submits that the new claims discussed above are not rendered obvious by Heaney and that these claims define subject matter patentable over Heaney.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 2, 11 and 19 have been rejected under § 103 based on Heaney in view of Goffredo (U.S. 2,584,010). These claims have been cancelled.

The new independent claims presented here have the limitations discussed above.

Applicant repeats here the comments above regarding the Heaney reference. Goffredo does not remedy the deficiencies of Heaney. Goffredo has no teaching or suggestion of a cuff positionable above an ankle joint as now claimed herein.

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims discussed here define nonobvious, patentable subject matter with respect to Heaney, Goffredo and any possible permissible combination of them.

§ 103 Rejection

Claim 9, rejected under § 103 based on Heaney in view of Robinson (U.S. 4,922,630) has been cancelled. New Claim 26, corresponding to now-cancelled Claim 9, depends from new independent Claim 21.

Applicant repeats here the discussion above of new independent Claim 21 and of the Heaney reference. Robinson does not remedy the deficiencies of Heaney.

Applicant respectfully submits that these claims define subject matter patentable over Heaney.

§ 103 Rejection

Claims 12, 13, 14, 16, and 20 have been rejected under § 103 based on Heaney in view of Broadhurst (U.S. 4,982,733). These claims have been cancelled. New claims corresponding to the now-cancelled claims, all include the limitations regarding the cuff positionable immediately above the ankle so that the ankle prevents downward movement of the cuff, discussed above.

Applicant repeats here the comments above regarding the Heaney reference. Broadhurst does not remedy the deficiencies of the Heaney reference.

Applicant respectfully submits that these claims define subject matter patentable over Heaney and Broadhurst.

Drawings

The Drawing Figures have been objected to for not showing the subject matter of Claims 5, 6, 8, and 9. Claims 5, 6, 8 and 9 have been cancelled and no new claims here correspond to these now-cancelled claims.

Conclusion

Applicant appreciates the careful and detailed Office Action. This is intended to be a complete Response to the Office Action. Early and favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

12 July 2005

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